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PATENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 041514-5130

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

)
) Confirmation No.: 1389
) Group Art Unit: 2653
) Examiner: A. Psitos
) ) ) ) )

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a Final Action, a Notice of Allowance, or another action that closes prosecution in the above-referenced application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0310 in the amount of \$180.00 for the Information Disclosure Statement fee as specified by 37 C.F.R.

§1.17(p). 10/27/2004 RFEKADU1 00000109 500310 09891471 01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was cited in a Search Report issued by the European Patent Office dated October 4, 2004 in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

The Search Report also lists U.S. Patent No. 5,859,824, U.S. Patent No. 6,031,792, EP 0 605 924, EP 0 776 003, JP 11-306661, WO 00/08638, one article by H.A. Wierenga, and one article by Narahara et al., which are not listed because these documents were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 9, 2004.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that any better art exists and does not constitute an admission that any or all of the listed documents is material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that any or all of the listed documents does not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

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If there is any other fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 26, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION			Attorney Docket No.: 041514-5130 Application No.: 09/891,471							
(Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant: Masakazu OGASAWARA, et al.  PAGE 1 of 1						
O   P E PTO Form 1449				Filing	Filing Date: June 27, 2001 Group Art Unit: 2653				553	
II S PATENT DOCUMENTS										
*EXSO	piner	Document Number	Date	9	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing	Date	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
		Document Sub Translation								
		Document Number	Date		Country	Class	Class	YES	NO NO	
		W0 96/06427	Feb. 29, 1996		PCT					
		EP 0 814 465	Dec. 29,	1997	EPO					
		WO 99/59143	Nov. 18,	1999	PCT					
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)										
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Examiner				Date Considered						
Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.										